

28, 1995 and has brought travelers to and from Denver safely and swiftly ever since.

Today, Denver International's CEO, Kim Day, and the airport staff operate the fifth-busiest airport in the country. DIA has become an economic engine for the state of Colorado, stimulating more than \$26 billion in annual revenue for the region.

Additionally, DIA now supports more than 183,000 jobs, with an estimated annual payroll of nearly \$8.5 billion. The airport has grown to serve more than 170 nonstop destinations around the world in nine countries, representing new gateways to cultural and economic opportunities in Asia, Central America, Europe, and beyond.

In addition to serving the people of Colorado, DIA set the standard for environmentally responsible airports. Denver International's translucent fabric canopy takes advantage of our 300 days of sunshine per year to create a passively lit interior. Additionally, the airport hosts a 9,000 panel solar array that produces 3.5 million kilowatts of power.

For me, DIA's distinctive profile that mimics both the snow-peaked Rockies and the Native American teepees of Colorado's history means that I have arrived home.

I congratulate everyone involved with the airport in reaching this milestone anniversary and extend my sincere gratitude for their continued success and service to our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF RON  
FRANKEL

**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 27, 2015*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Ron Frankel who was chosen to receive the 2015 Community Care Award by the Hillsborough Schools' Associated Parents Groups. This award is reserved for an individual who has made sustained and significant contributions that have broadly touched the lives of our children. Not only is he a terrific science teacher, but you will not find anyone in Hillsborough or the entire school district who doesn't sing the praises of Mr. Frankel as the best administrator of the 6th grade Outdoor Ed program.

The 6th grade Outdoor Ed program is a one-week field trip to Jones Gulch for all 6th graders in the school district—that is approximately 200 students each year. This is no ordinary field trip, it's a life-changing experience for our children. It also is no ordinary field trip to coordinate; it is a complex, time-consuming and detail oriented process that most teachers would not want to lead. But then there is Ron Frankel, the outstanding science and music teacher who has singlehandedly coordinated the Outdoor Ed program for over 15 years. He spends countless hours before, during and after the trip arranging for teachers to attend, booking high school aged counselors, figuring out cabin assignments, holding parent information meetings, fielding all questions, and most importantly, putting the children at ease while they prepare for their big adventure away from home. Outdoor Ed is undoubtedly one of the most memorable experiences for all Hillsborough City School District students.

Ron's enthusiasm for this program is unmatched and he deserves credit for making it

so successful. As a former student of Crocker Middle School and a teacher there for almost two decades, he has a unique connection to the students and the school. He lightens up the campus environment with music and laughter. Among his wonderful creations are the Ro-Sham-Bo World Championship, Pickle Day, Open Mike during recess and the 6th grade music appreciation class. Ron's quiet, gentle and understated way of teaching instills an honest and deep passion for learning in all of his students. He sets them on a path to become caring and engaged citizens.

I had the good fortune to have both my children taught by Mr. Frankel who said his passion for science made even the mundane interesting to 12 and 13-year-olds. Awesome! Words from children say it all.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to recognize a model teacher in Hillsborough, California whose embrace of his students, science and life are an inspiration to parents and his colleagues. Ron Frankel truly deserves to be honored with the 2015 Hillsborough Schools' Community Care Award.

RECOGNIZING DR. KNEELAND  
YOUNGBLOOD

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 27, 2015*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Kneeland Youngblood, a physician, businessman, and former presidential appointee, who will be recognized by the Texas Legislative Black Caucus on March 1 for his marked achievements and distinguished success as a prominent African-American business leader and compassionate and dedicated civil and public servant.

Born from the town of Galena Park, Texas on December 13, 1955, Dr. Youngblood has led a remarkably storied life. After receiving his Bachelor of Arts in political science at Princeton University in 1978. During his studies at Princeton, Dr. Youngblood attended courses at Wamborough College in Oxford and the University of Stockholm in Sweden. He went on to earn his Medical Degree from the University of Texas Health Science Center in 1982. While at the University of Texas, he broadened his studies at the Cairo University Medical School.

Dr. Youngblood completed his medical residency in emergency medicine at the Emory University School of Medicine and subsequently returned to Texas and began medical practice at the Medical Center of Plano. In 1997, Dr. Youngblood left the medical profession and co-founded the Pharos Capital Group, LLC, which manages over \$200 million in technology, business services, and healthcare company investments.

During the Clinton Administration, Dr. Youngblood was appointed to the Board of Directors for the United States Enrichment Corporation charged with providing nuclear fuel to countries hoping to utilize nuclear power as a sustainable energy source. He took his work to South Africa in 1998 where he met Nelson Mandela and was inspired to pen From Sit-In to Soweto, the famous essay that details his

reflection on time he spent as a student activist protesting South African businesses at Princeton to his work in South Africa. Furthermore, Dr. Youngblood was a part of First Lady Hillary Clinton's Health Care Task Force.

Since then, Dr. Youngblood has served in various senior management roles for a plethora of corporations and organizations. Some of these notable organizations include: the Teacher Retirement System of the State of Texas; AMR Investments; Starwood Hotels & Lodging; Burger King, and The Gap.

Please join me in recognizing Dr. Kneeland Youngblood for his immeasurable contributions to the Dallas community, the great state of Texas, and to the legacy of African American entrepreneurship in America.

HONORING SHERMAN L. JENKINS

**HON. BILL FOSTER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 27, 2015*

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sherman L. Jenkins, who was named Outstanding African-American of the Year by the City of Aurora's African-American Heritage Advisory Board.

Mr. Jenkins has been a key figure in the growth and development of the city of Aurora, Illinois. From 1991 until his retirement in 2012, Mr. Jenkins worked as assistant director and then as executive director of the Aurora Economic Development Commission. Under his leadership, the Aurora Economic Development Commission fostered the creation of the city's first downtown Master Plan, formed the Seize the Future Development Foundation, and worked to bring the Chicago Premium Outlets and many other infrastructure and business projects to Aurora, Illinois.

In addition to his business career, Mr. Jenkins has been committed to serving his community. He is a member of the Ely Chapter of Lambda Alpha International, Rotary Club of Aurora, Past Chairman and Board Emeritus of the Aurora Public Library Foundation, a board member of the Northern Lights Development Corporation, and an Advisory Council member of the Board of Directors for the Quad County African American Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Jenkins is the President of SLJ Development Corporation and SLJ Communications, Inc., publisher of the monthly digital magazine Tell Me Somethin' Good, which focuses on African-American life outside the City of Chicago.

I would like to congratulate Mr. Jenkins as he receives the Outstanding African-American of the Year Award from the City of Aurora's African-American Heritage Advisory Board and thank him for his service to our community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DAVID E. PRICE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 27, 2015*

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, due to the tragic shooting of three young Muslim students in my district, I was unable to vote during Roll Call 79, the motion to recommit H.R. 644, the Fighting Hunger Incentive

Act, as well as Roll Call 80, final passage of H.R. 644.

I was also unable to vote on Roll Call 81, the motion to recommit H.R. 636, America's Small Business Tax Relief Act, as well as Roll Call 82, final Passage of H.R. 636.

Had I been present, I would have voted for both the motions to recommit and voted against H.R. 644 and H.R. 636 on final passage.

HONORING THOMAS H. WARREN,  
SR.

**HON. BRAD ASHFORD**

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 27, 2015*

Mr. ASHFORD. Mr. Speaker, as we close out Black History Month, I want to recognize a leader in my community in Nebraska, Thomas H. Warren, Sr., the President and CEO of the Urban League of Nebraska. Prior to assuming his leadership role at ULN, Mr. Warren served for 24 years with the Omaha Police Department, serving 4 years as the Chief of Police—the first African American to assume this position. Mr. Warren transformed the struggling Urban League of Nebraska into an organization serving the public's interest and advocating for social justice. Today, ULN provides programs in youth development, employment services and violence prevention—services that were not previously offered in our community. Thomas Warren's record of public service is extensive, but it is safe to say that Omaha would not be the same without him. He has been recognized on both the local and national level for his dedication to our community, and it is with great honor that I recognize him here on the House floor. On behalf of our community, I want to say thank you to Mr. Thomas Warren, Sr.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ROBERT HURT**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 27, 2015*

Mr. HURT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for Roll Call vote #95, a recorded vote on the Kennedy of Massachusetts Part B Amendment No. 1 to H.R. 5. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

I was not present for Roll Call vote #96, a recorded vote on the Grothman of Wisconsin Part B Amendment No. 2 to H.R. 5. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

I was not present for Roll Call vote #97, a recorded vote on the Castro of Texas Part B Amendment No. 6 to H.R. 5. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

I was not present for Roll Call vote #98, a recorded vote on the Quigley of Illinois Part B Amendment No. 9 to H.R. 5. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

I was not present for Roll Call vote #99, a recorded vote on the Moore of Wisconsin Part B Amendment No. 13 to H.R. 5. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

#### STUDENT SUCCESS ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 25, 2015*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5) to support State and local accountability for public education, protect State and local authority, inform parents of the performance of their children's schools, and for other purposes:

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to H.R. 5, the "Student Success Act," which would harm the education of our nation's youth.

I thank Chairman KLINE, Ranking Member SCOTT, and all the members of the Committee on Education and the Workforce for their work to improve education for our nation's children.

Unfortunately, the bill before the House for consideration, should it become law, would harm our most vulnerable children, including those who attend urban and rural schools, and special needs children who need equal access to an excellent education.

The bill as it exists now allows for the establishment of separate, lower standards for students with developmental disabilities.

As a result of these standards, opportunities available for students with disabilities later in life would suffer considerably.

H.R. 5 converts much of the funding currently directed at English learners, migrant students, or at-risk students into block-grants, which would enable those funds to be spent outside the target populations.

Support for these students would also be eroded by suspending requirements that school districts improve the English-speaking ability of such students.

One of the most dangerous provisions of this bill is the proposal to allow "portability" of funds under Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

This proposal, if enacted, would allow states to redirect funds away from districts with the highest concentrations of poverty, and into more affluent districts with less need for such support.

This proposal is especially harmful for Houston school districts, where an estimated 31.5% of children live below the poverty line. The vast majority of these children are Black or Hispanic.

As legislators, as Americans, we have a generational responsibility to enhance the lives of those who will follow us, especially the most vulnerable.

It is sobering to me, as the founder and co-chair of the Congressional Children's Caucus and someone who has long advocated on behalf of young people from all backgrounds, to see a bill that would have such a negative impact on the very children who need our help the most.

In addition to these sad truths, the bill currently under consideration would strike a devastating blow to our schools' ability to provide the variety of programs that our children deserve.

It repeals dedicated funding for programs such as student safety, after and summer school programming, STEM education, education technology, arts education, literacy and

block-grants support, forcing high-need districts to choose between funding vital services.

It should not be overlooked that one of these programs that is considered expendable is STEM-focused education, an area of importance both nationally and to my constituents in Houston.

The Houston region is one of the most important industrial bases in the world and was recently ranked the No. 1 US manufacturing city by Manufacturers' News Inc.

Houston is also home to the largest medical complex in the world—the Texas Medical Center—and provides clinical health care, research and education at its 54 institutions.

These jobs, and truly the middle class of this decade as a whole, are dependent on workers who get the right STEM education and job training today.

Brookings' Metropolitan Policy Program's report "The Hidden STEM Economy" reported that in 2011, 26 million jobs or 20 percent of all occupations required knowledge in 1 or more STEM areas.

The same report stressed that fully half of all STEM jobs are available to workers without a 4 year degree and these jobs pay on average \$53,000 a year, which is 10 percent higher than jobs with similar education requirements.

To eliminate federal funding aimed at enhancing STEM education is to cripple an entire generation of America's youth, leaving them without skills that may be essential in securing their own future and the economic prosperity of our nation.

Finally, it must be addressed that the defining characteristic of our primary and secondary education system has been to prepare our students for college.

H.R. 5 does not contain any provisions that states consult with institutes of higher education in order to ensure that their academic standards are consistent with what will be demanded of those students once they graduate.

As a result, many students, even after receiving a high school diploma, will find themselves unprepared to pursue a college degree if they choose to.

Furthermore, the bill eliminates the current requirements that districts take action when their schools are under resourced and unable to meet the needs of all students.

Together with the lack of consideration and support for at-risk and low-income youth, this will result in those students being marginalized and denied educational opportunity rather than given the support and resources they so desperately need.

There is no greater testament to the substantial and wide-ranging harm done by this bill than the coalition of organizations that have voiced their opposition, including:

National Education Association  
American Federation of Teachers  
Committee for Education Funding  
Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD)

American Association of People with Disabilities

Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights

NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund  
League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC)

National Council of La Raza  
U.S. Chamber of Commerce  
Business Roundtable